

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 31, 2003. Claim 1 was pending. By this Amendment, new claims 2-20 have been added, and claim 1 has been amended to clarify the claimed invention. Accordingly, claims 1-20 are now pending, with claims 1, 2, 13 and 14 being in independent form.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as purportedly indefinite.

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to clarify the claimed invention.

Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is requested.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as purportedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,542,086 to Andrew in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,784,620 to Isham, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,586,035 to Baker.

Applicant has carefully considered the Examiner's comments and the cited art, and respectfully submit that the claimed invention of this application is patentable over the cited art, for at least the following reasons.

This application relates to operation of a desktop information system .

For example, independent claim 1 is directed to a method for operating a desktop system. Document object models are created which comprise selected information from and about information assets of diverse types, created by diverse software. Browse cards related to respective ones of the information assets in a time-ordered stream, are displayed together with glance views related to the document object models of the respective displayed documents. Each browse card includes a corresponding set of command buttons specific to the information asset associated with the browse card.

Andrew, as understood by Applicant, is directed to tools, in an object-oriented operating

system (i.e. OS/2), for assigning to object classes, document objects created on a different computer system. As acknowledged in the Office Action, Andrew does not disclose or suggest, however, displaying browse cards related to respective ones of the information assets, as provided by the claimed invention set forth in claim 1.

Isham, as understood by Applicant, is directed to an object-oriented software system which maintains object internal state encapsulation while providing collective access to internal state data of system objects. The Office Action cites Isham as purportedly teaching consistency of object classes.

Baker, as understood by Applicant, is directed to an interactive display terminal wherein multiple overlapping windows can be displayed, with each window having a "virtual menu", i.e. menu items are not displayed in a conventional configuration side-by-side or in a top-down list (see Figs. 1 and 2 of Baker), but rather with menu items being associated with respective disjointed areas on the screen. When a user moves a cursor over a particular region of a window, a corresponding menu item associated with the region is displayed, which allows the user to select a corresponding operation on the window. However, the same collection of virtual menu items (i.e. close window, move window, resize window, scroll up, down, left, right) is available for each window, regardless of the information asset.

Applicant does not find disclosure or suggestion by the cited art, however, of a method for operating a desktop system, wherein document object models are created which comprise selected information from and about information assets of diverse types and created by diverse software, browse cards related to respective ones of the information assets are displayed together with glance views related to the document object models of the respective displayed documents, and each browse card includes a corresponding set of command buttons specific to the

information asset associated with the browse card, as provided by the claimed invention of claim 1 as amended.

New Claims 2-20 are directed to additional features described in the application.

For example, independent claim 2 is directed to a method for managing a desktop information system, wherein the desktop information system is searched, according to a single set of one or more user-specified search criteria, the search covering information objects associated with data items that are in heterogeneous formats and are from heterogeneous sources including application documents, e-mails and web-formatted documents, and a result of the search is presented in time order. The search result includes information objects related to data items from at least two of the heterogeneous sources.

Independent claim 13 is directed to desktop computer search method comprising storing in a desktop computer data units in heterogeneous formats from heterogeneous sources including software applications, e-mail sources and worldwide web sources, associating a timestamp with each data unit stored in the desktop computer to create information describing a stored stream of data units with associated respective timestamps, retrieving for display selected data units from the stored stream in response to a single search query having one or more search terms to create a substream of data units from at least two of the heterogeneous sources according to their respective timestamps, the retrieving comprising searching through data units stored in the desktop computer from the heterogeneous software applications, e-mail and worldwide web sources, and visually displaying the data units of the substream in a time ordered sequence according to their respective timestamps, the display including chronological indicators of the displayed data units.

Independent claim 14 is directed to an apparatus for managing a desktop information system, wherein a search tool is adapted to search the desktop information system, according to a single set of one or more search criteria, and return a result of the search, the search result including information objects associated with documents that are in heterogeneous formats and are from heterogeneous sources and include application documents, e-mails and web-formatted documents, and a presentation tool is adapted to process the search result and present the processed result including information objects associated with application documents, e-mails and web-formatted documents, in time order.

Applicant does not find teaching or suggestion in the cited art of the claimed invention set forth in new independent claims 2, 13 and 14.


Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is allowable over the cited art.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge the additional claim fee and any additional fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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